

REMARKS

Claims 1-24, 26, and 28-45 are pending. Claims 1-24, 26, and 28-30 are allowed.

Claims 31-45, due to a restriction requirement, are withdrawn from consideration.

The Office states (page 2):

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters: disposition of nonelected claims 31-45.

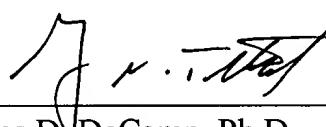
Claims 31-45 have been canceled. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and this action is hereby respectfully requested.

Enclosed are a Petition to extend the period for replying to the Office Action for two (2) months, to and including February 6, 2006, and a check in payment of the required extension fee.

If there are any additional charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6 February 2006



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